Sarasota County Emergency Management



Flash Report #41

Undates listed in blue



April 7, 2020

Activation Level 2: Partial

Event Name: COVID-19

Situation

As of noon today, Sarasota County is reporting 172 confirmed COVID-19 cases, 158 Sarasota County residents and 14 non-Florida residents. There have been seven deaths in Sarasota County to date. Confirmed cases range in age from 0 to 99, with 75 men and 97 women testing positive. There have been 1579 people tested for COVID-19 with an 11 percent positive return rate. All confirmed cases in Sarasota County are receiving the appropriate medical care and are hospitalized or self-isolated.

The Florida Department of Health is currently reporting a total of 14,504 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Florida.

The Florida Department of Health continues to see new positive cases across the State, please visit www.flhealth.gov/covid-19 for the most current case count and county specific data.

DOH Sarasota is doing COVID-19 testing today at the Drive-Thru COVID-19 testing site at Twin Lakes Park.

Visitors to the Sarasota County COVID-19 testing site must be referred by a physician to be tested. The physician's office will contact DOH Sarasota who will then contact the individual with an appointment day and time.

DOH Sarasota is monitoring community health trends on a daily basis to help identify any possible cases of COVID-19. Additionally, the department is serving as an expert resource for health care providers and the public, and working to make sure that health care providers know what to look for and what to do if they suspect COVID-19 in a patient.

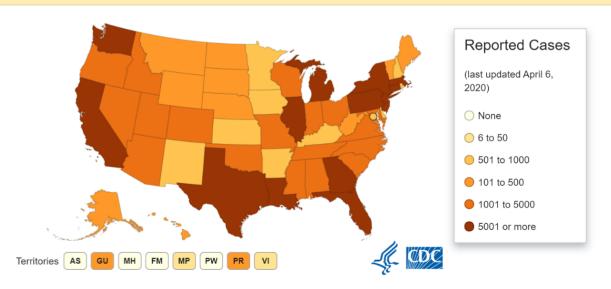
DOH continues to visit all licensed long term care facilities in Sarasota County to ensure proper COVID-19 infection control guidelines as established by the CDC are being used to prevent the spread of the virus.

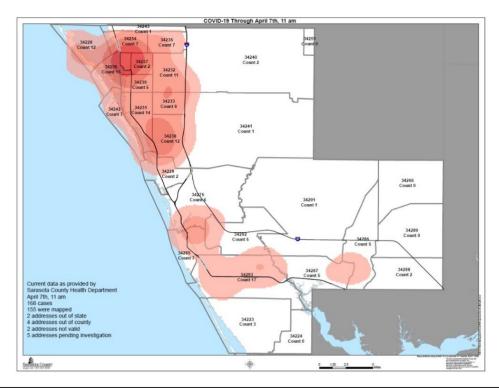
The Florida Department of Health reminds everyone that the elderly and those with underlying medical problems like high blood pressure, heart problems and diabetes are more likely to develop serious illness.

If you are sick with COVID-19 or suspect you are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, follow the steps below to help prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home and community.

Stay home except to get medical care: You should restrict activities outside your home, except for getting medical care. Do not go to work, school, or public areas. Avoid using public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.

States Reporting Cases of COVID-19 to CDC*





Possible Impacts

COVID-19 is a new disease and there is limited information regarding risk factors for severe disease. Based on currently available information and clinical expertise, older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

More cases of COVID-19 are likely to be identified in the coming days, including more cases in the United States. It's also likely that person-to-person spread will continue to occur, including in communities in the United States. It's likely that at some point, widespread transmission of COVID-19 in the United States will occur.

Timing

Symptoms may be mild to severe and may appear 2-14 days after exposure.

Watch, Warnings, Advisories

Global Level 4 Health Advisory - Do not travel.

Public Health Advisory for Vulnerable Populations, Gatherings of Private Citizens and Density of the Workforce.

Travel in the United States

The CDC urges residents of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut to refrain from nonessential domestic travel for 14 days effective immediately. This Domestic Travel Advisory does not apply to employees of critical infrastructure industries, including but not limited to trucking, public health professionals, financial services, and food supply.

Global Level 4 Health Advisory

The Department of State has issued a Global Level 4 Health Advisory, advises U.S. citizens to avoid all international travel due to the global impact of COVID-19.

Cruise Ship Travel

CDC has issued a Level 3 Travel Health Warning for cruise ship travel. CDC recommends that all people defer travel on cruise ships, including river cruises, worldwide. That's because the risk of COVID-19 on cruise ships is high. Older adults and people with serious chronic medical conditions, such as heart disease, diabetes, or lung disease, should especially defer travel on cruise ships, including river cruises, because of their increased risk for severe disease.

Passengers who return from a cruise ship or river cruise voyage are advised to stay home for 14 days, monitor their health, and practice social distancing.

Sarasota County Actions

The County Administrator extended the emergency declaration through April 12, 2020. The EOC will continue to monitor this dynamic situation and support government operations and partners to ensure resources are available when needed. If you are assigned to the EOC or are called to report, you will receive a health screening before entering the building. Please remember to complete a Daily Disaster Logs and follow submission instructions from your Disaster Log representative.

Effective Tuesday April 7th in-person staffing at the EOC will be reduced with some positions shifting to remote working.

Teladoc visit copays will be waived until June 4, 2020, regardless of diagnosis.

A new heat map of COVID-19 positive cases was developed and distributed in conjunction with the Department of Health.

Emergency Services has added a fourth rapid response vehicle.

Successful coordination with School Board and Comcast to provide internet access to students and families at no cost including families with past due accounts or discontinued service.

The Department of Health in Sarasota County, Sarasota County and Sarasota Memorial Hospital established a COVID-19 appointment only drive-thru specimen collection site at Twin Lakes Park for symptomatic people who meet current CDC testing guidance.

Employee Health and Benefits announced Virtual EAP sessions to help employees cope with stress.

Park amenities (courts, playgrounds, dog parks) have closed.

Sarasota County's Permitting Center and Utilities Customer Services at 4000 S. Tamiami Trail have moved temporarily to 1001 Sarasota Center Blvd., Sarasota. Customers may conduct business by using phone, e-mail and online service options. Customers who come in-person will experience increased wait times and will be health screened.

Visitor screenings are being performed at Admin. and BOB.

For COVID-19 text updates from Sarasota County Government, text SRQCOVID19 to 888777.

Sarasota County Government has waived water service shut-offs through April 13 for non-payment of utilities bills, as part of our ongoing response to COVID-19.

Sarasota County canceled all events at county facilities through April 30.

Key Points

CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies) especially in areas of significant community-based transmission.

There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. As a reminder, the Department always recommends everyday preventive actions to help impede the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

Avoiding close contact with people who are sick

Staying home when you are sick and avoiding contact with persons in poor health;

Avoiding touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands;

Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then disposing of the tissue;

Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating, after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing; - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty;

Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

Essential Elements of Information							
14065 Florida Resident Cases	Declared Local State of Emergency	Declared State of Emergency	Declared Federal Emergency	Level 1 State EOC Activation	369069 USA Cases		
439 Non-Florida Resident Cases	03/16 - 04/30 Schools Closed	12182 Currently Monitored	7759 Text Alert Opt-ins	858 Contact Center Calls Answered Daily Total M-F	17 seconds Contact Center Wait Time		
283 Florida Deaths	115 Parks Open	11 Libraries Closed	04/06/20 LSE Expiration	1365004 Global Cases	137375 Number of People Tested (FL)		
Activated Fire - DOC	Activated Health Department - DOC	Partial Parks - DOC	Partial Libraries - DOC	Not Activated	Partial Public Utilities - DOC		

Directors

Finance and Administration requests all directors to help procurement prioritize requests.

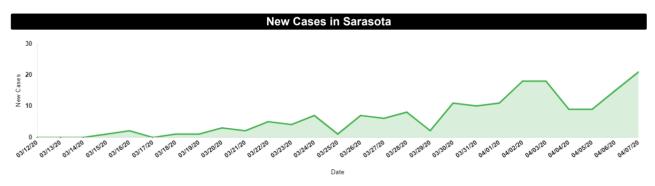
Reminder for all departments to send any communications through communications@scgov.net.

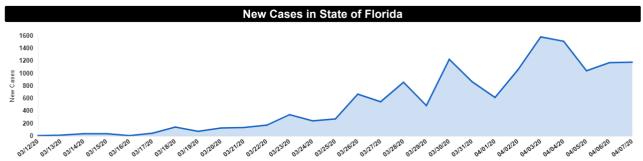
Public Records Request continue to come in and departments are responsible for responding in a timely fashion.

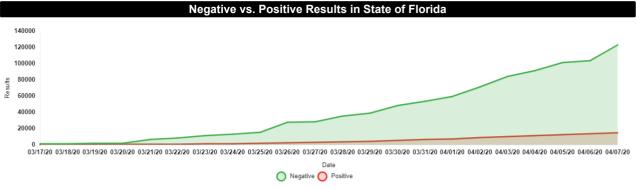
All personnel should ensure staff is situationally aware of the spread of COVID-19 and personal protective measures to reduce or prevent influenza like illnesses. Any information regarding employee communications and messaging coordinate with Sarasota County Human Resources Department. All department and agencies with potential press releases coordinate with Sarasota County Communications Department by calling 861-NEWS or news@scgov.net. If the situation escalates, Flash Reports will be replaced with Situation Reports.

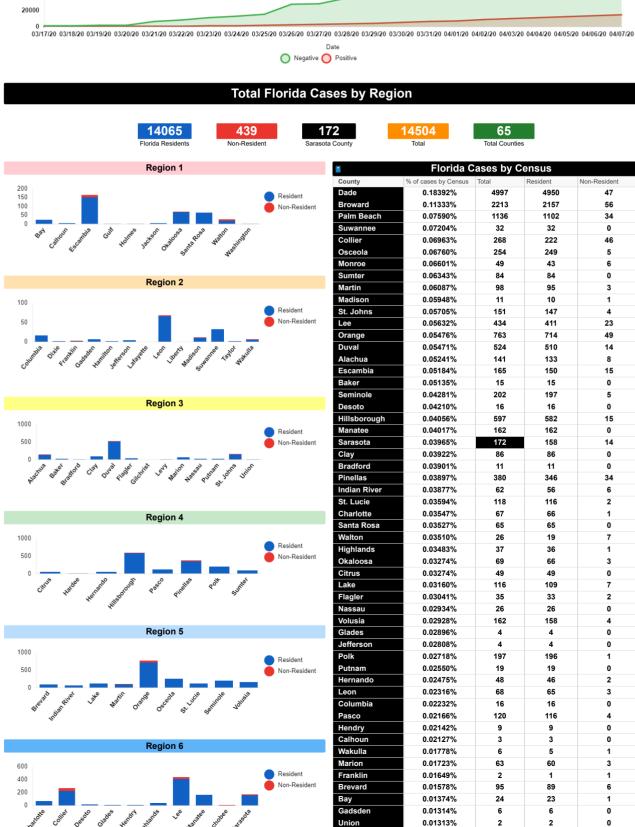
All Agencies and Partners

Please ensure that all field personnel that do not receive e-mail communications are informed of daily updates and are provided the Florida Department of Health and CDC information links to ensure proper protective measures are taken.



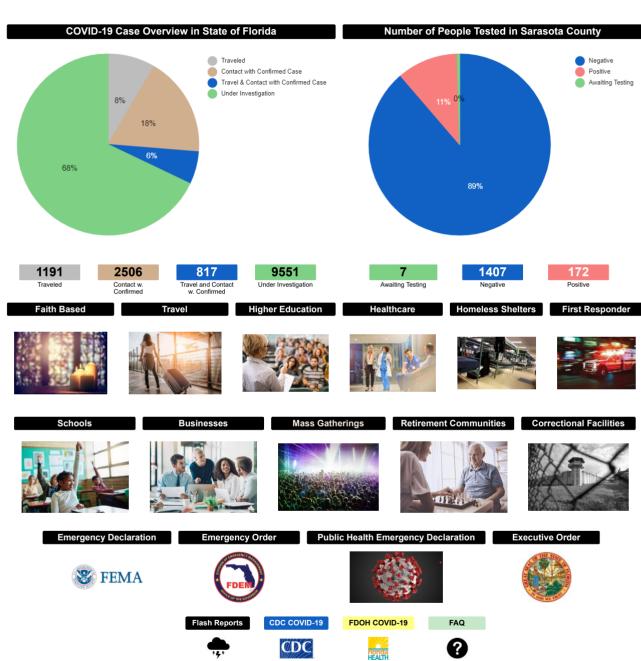








Levy	0.01205%	5	5	0
Holmes	0.01020%	2	2	0
Okeechobee	0.00949%	4	3	1
Jackson	0.00862%	4	3	1
Washington	0.00785%	2	2	0
Hardee	0.00742%	2	1	1
Gulf	0.00733%	1	1	0
Hamilton	0.00693%	1	1	0
Dixie	0.00594%	1	1	0
Taylor	0.00464%	1	1	0
Gilchrist	0.00000%	0	0	0
Lafayette	0.00000%	0	0	0
Liberty	0.00000%	0	0	0



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